

House Resolution No. 1767

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State employees who admirably contribute an exceptional amount of time and energy to ensuring the public safety during times of unusually inclement weather; and

Whereas, the Missouri State Water Patrol utilized the services of fifty-four officers from as far away as Kansas City in order to address safety issues posed by flooding during March 2008 in southeastern Missouri and the Saint Louis metropolitan area; and

Whereas, supported by six Water Patrol dispatchers working extended shifts, the fifty-four Water Patrol officers performed more than four hundred rescues and evacuations and answered a multitude of calls for service in the urban and rural areas of Poplar Bluff, Piedmont, Cape Girardeau, Jackson, Dutchtown, Allenville, Delta, Monett, Whitewater, Ellington, Van Buren, Marble Hill, Cedar Hill, Eureka, Valley Park, and Pacific; and

Whereas, in addition to swollen rivers, the Water Patrol had to deal with vehicles washed off of roads and bridges, agricultural levees that failed, and weather too severe for rescue aircraft to fly; and

Whereas, the Water Patrol had to shift the location of its personnel and resources as the flooding in one area subsided even as another area worsened; and

Whereas, due to the nature and severity of the event, the Missouri State Water Patrol was assisted by local sheriffs and first responders, the Coast Guard, the National Park Service, and the State Emergency Management Agency; and

Whereas, despite the best efforts of the Missouri State Water Patrol, six civilians lost their lives, numerous persons were injured, and three officers were injured during the performance of their duties; and

Whereas, it is fitting and proper that the Missouri House of Representatives should pause in its diverse legislative actions in order to praise the work of the Missouri State Water Patrol:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the history, goals, and accomplishments associated with the Missouri State Water Patrol and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt commendation of their actions during flooding in the eastern portion of the state during March 2008; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Missouri State Water Patrol.

Offered by _____
Representative Mike Dethrow
District No. 153

Representative Gayle Kingery
District No. 154

Representative J.C. Kuessner
District No. 152

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1767, adopted April 14, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker